

# opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • APRIL 2000

## Awards Dinner Menu: Helen Thomas Lou Boccardi, Mike Wallace and 19 Prizes

by Sonya K. Fry

It's awards time again. The millennium awards dinner (our 61st) will be held at the Grand Hyatt in New York City on Thursday, April 27. Cocktail hour starts at 6:00pm with dinner beginning at 7:00pm. The prices have remained the same for several years in the hope that many members will attend the dinner.

The black-tie affair is priced at \$125 for members and \$200 for non-members. Since this is the annual fund raiser for the OPC, table prices range from \$3,000 and \$5,000 up to \$10,000.

Helen Thomas, UPI's White House Bureau Chief, will be the featured speaker. Helen has covered every President from Kennedy to Clinton. She has traveled extensively covering Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan and Bush, including going to China with President Nixon during his breakthrough trip in January 1972. Helen Thomas is the longest serving wire service journalist in the White House and therefore has the honor of asking the first question at all Presidential press conferences.

The highlight of the evening is the presentation of 19 prestigious OPC

awards for best international coverage in all media. The awards presenter this year is Mike Wallace of CBS "60 Minutes." Mike, a long-time member of the OPC, has been co-editor of "60 Minutes" since its premiere in September 1968, making this his 32nd year with the broadcast. He has interviewed nearly everyone in the universe, including the former tobacco company employee Jeffrey Wigand, who revealed critical tobacco industry secrets.

The President's Award for lifetime achievement will go to Lou Boccardi, President and CEO of the Associated Press since 1985. Lou has spearheaded AP's move into television, modernized news gathering and has taken a leading role within the news industry on critical First Amendment issues. His honors within the journalism profession are numerous, including the Allen H.

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Helen Thomas

## No Optimistic View on Putin's Russia from OPC Expert Panel

by Jacqueline Albert-Simon

A little more than two weeks before the March 26 Russian presidential elections, the OPC organized a program on what Vladimir Putin as president might mean for Russia's sorely deteriorating economic, social and moral condition.

Panelists at the Club Quarters discussion included OPC member Andrew Rosenthal, foreign editor of *The New York Times* and a former Moscow Bureau Chief for AP; David Satter, former Moscow correspondent for the *Financial Times* and the *Wall Street Journal* and now finishing a book on the Russian criminal state; and Dr. Robert Legvold, a political scientist at the Harriman Institute at Columbia University and formerly its Director, author of numerous books and

articles on Russia and security issues, and Russian issues in the post-Soviet world.

Andrew Rosenthal explained that Putin, a former KGB officer for 17 years, remains opaque, and is best known through his career as a bureaucrat, since he has never before run for public office. After the fall of the Soviet Union, Putin, who is originally from St. Petersburg, returned there and eventually joined forces with Anatoly Sobchak, then mayor of St. Petersburg, and became his deputy. Putin was known as the man who "got things done." After Sobchak was defeated for another term, Putin went off to Moscow as head of the FSB, the security agency that followed the dissolution of the KGB. In that role, he supported

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# OPC Protests Press Rights Abuses in 14 Countries

by Larry Martz  
and Norman A. Schorr

Freedom of the Press Committee

Violations of press freedom in 14 countries were protested by the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee in the past two months.

Most of the attacks on journalists and the media reflected the usual motivation: the desire to punish journalists for reporting the truth or disclosing information critical of or unfavorable to government officials.

The best publicized case was the disappearance of Radio Liberty reporter Andrei Babitsky. Early reports said he had

been captured in Chechnya and traded for two or four Russian prisoners of war. *Newsweek International* reported that the journalist had been captured and traded by the Russians for "truth telling." The Russian authorities "hated his guts," *Newsweek* said, for telling the world about Russia's setbacks, contradicting the official Kremlin line.

Amnesty International announced that Babitsky's life was in great danger. The OPC appealed to Russia's Acting President Vladimir Putin for Babitsky's release. So did other press freedom advocacy groups and certain U.S. government officials.

After several conflicting reports, Babitsky was released, and Russia's Putin was said to have been involved in reacting to international pressure. *The New York Times* reported that Babitsky spoke guardedly at a March 1 news conference in Moscow. On March 13, the *Times* said that the journalist still faced charges for "aiding the enemy."

*Time* magazine said that in the aftermath of the Babitsky case, Russian journalists feared that "a new campaign is emerging against the press."

Some of the lower-profile cases

addressed by the OPC committee:

A newspaperman in Angola was arrested for an unpublished article that was considered unfavorable to the country's president. The unpublished article had been found by security forces, folded into a book at the journalist's desk.

In Swaziland, a newspaper group was shut down for its failure to disclose confidential sources in a story involving the deputy prime minister.

In Kenya, a reporter for the daily newspaper, *The People*, was given an 18-month jail sentence for reporting that a group of the presidential guards had been ambushed by a group of militiamen and had "meekly surrendered." The report was denied. The reporter was also accused of publishing "false news" in another article quoting a government minister calling for a posthumous trial of Jomo Kenyatta, Kenya's first president, for alleged crimes committed in his presidency.

Customs authorities in India blocked the entry of 3,000 copies of the Feb. 21 issue of *Time* magazine. The reason: The issue carried an interview with the assassin of Mohandas Gandhi.

The OPC committee objected to Indonesia's harassment of a three-person Portuguese TV crew shooting in West Timor, compelling the group to return to East Timor.

In March, the OPC committee called on Nepal to end the long imprisonment of the editor of a Nepali-language weekly, *Janadesh*, charged with being a threat "to domestic security and tranquility." He

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Andrei Babitsky

## Eldon Film Screening

A screening of "Dying to Tell the Story" is scheduled as the first event in the April Video Series of Newseum/NY. The 1997 film, in memory of 22-year-old photojournalist Dan Eldon, deals with news professionals who risk their lives in war-torn countries. Eldon's mother and sister, OPC members Kathy and Amy Eldon, were major forces behind the film. Free screenings are scheduled for April 6 and 8 at 1pm at the Newseum/NY auditorium, 580 Madison Avenue between 56th and 57th Streets.

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ISSN - 0738-7202  
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Overseas Press Club of  
America.

40 West 45 Street, New York, NY 10036 USA • Phone: (212) 626-9220 • Fax: (212) 626-9210 • Website: [opcofamerica.org](http://opcofamerica.org)



## PRESS FREEDOM

(Continued from Page 2)

remained in prison despite an order by Nepal's Supreme Court to free the journalist.

In February, the OPC committee protested the "increasingly hostile climate for journalists in Sri Lanka." Events cited included the statement by the country's president that criticism by independent media would no longer be tolerated and that "every action possible would be taken against independent media owners and editors short of killing them."

The OPC committee asked Israel to end restrictions on the free movement of Palestinian journalist Taher Shriteh, a stringer for *The New York Times*, the BBC and *Yomiuri Shimbun* of Japan.

Yemen, which reputedly has the freest press in the Arab world, suspended the opposition newspaper *Al-Wahdawi* for 30 days and banned its editor from the news business.

Another protest was sent by the OPC to Russia's Putin—this time for the government's proposals to regulate the content of web sites on the Internet.

OPC also protested the punitive damages levied on the Turkish Cypriot newspaper, *Avrupa*, including fines and trial costs totalling \$290,000.

About a week later, the president of the Turkish republic of Northern Cyprus replied, stating that an apology could have avoided the lawsuit.

Three events in mainland Turkey drew the committee's attention: 1) a bomb attack on the offices of a journalists' association; 2) charges brought against five newspapers for allegedly defaming Turkey's Justice Minister; and 3) the suspension of one private radio station.

Some good news:

In China, Lin Hai, the software entrepreneur who had been sentenced to two years in prison for supplying a pro-democracy magazine with 30,000 E-mail addresses, was released six months ahead of schedule.

Also, the committee learned that Jordan's new King Abdullah has stated that he intends to lift restrictions on free expression, and that he wants to privatize state-regulated media.

(Work of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee summarized in this article was carried out by committee members Kevin McDermott, John Martin, John Langone and Bob Sullivan, in addition to the signers of the article.)

## OPC Awards Dinner

(Continued from Page 1)  
Neuharth Award for Excellence in Journalism in 1998; fellow of the Society of Professional Journalists, and a 1992 recipient of the William Allen White Foundation Award for Journalistic Merit.

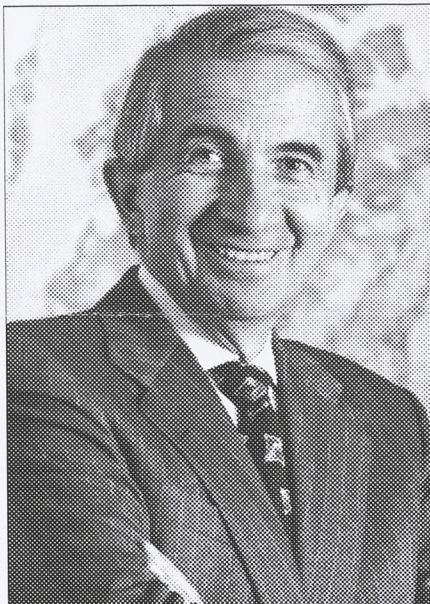
This year's Dinner Committee Chair, Richard M. Smith, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of *Newsweek*, has put together an illustrious committee

comprised of television, print and wire services executives and journalists.

Dinner Committee:

Tom Brokaw  
Ann Cooper  
Arnaud de Borchgrave  
Peter C. Goldmark, Jr.  
Donald E. Graham  
Don Hewitt  
Andrew Heyward  
Peter Jennings  
Andrew Lack  
Jim Lehrer  
John R. MacArthur  
Henry Muller

Norman Pearlstine  
David Remnick  
Missie Rennie  
Morley Safer  
Diane Sawyer  
Stephen Shepard  
Stephen G. Smith  
Lesley Stahl  
Paul E. Steiger  
Howard Stringer  
Robert Thomson  
Seymour Topping  
Mark Whitaker  
Mortimer B. Zuckerman



Louis D. Boccardi



Mike Wallace

## William and Mary Hosts Vietnam War Symposium

The College of William and Mary will host a symposium commemorating the 25th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War April 6 to 8 at the college's University Center in Williamsburg, Virginia. Vietnam Veterans of America will co-sponsor the event.

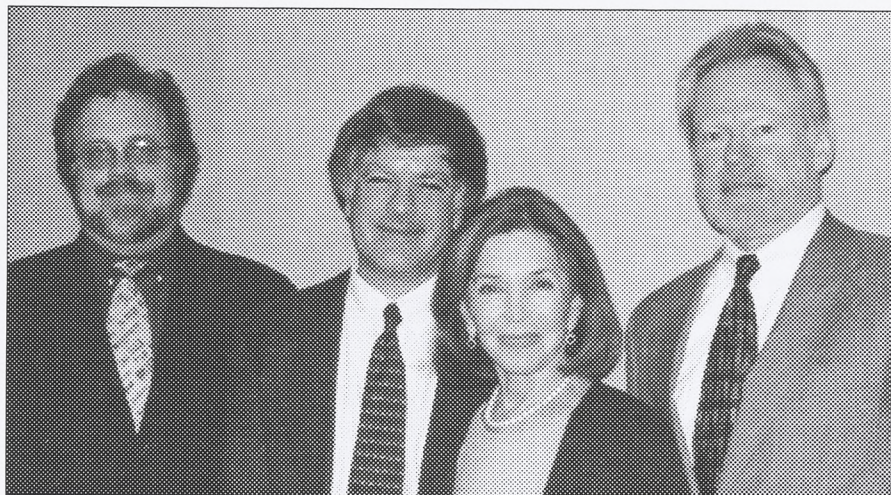
Pulitzer Prize winner and OPC member Peter Arnett will participate in a panel discussion, "Reporters on the Frontlines: Careers Forged in Danger," Friday, April 7 at 2:00 p.m. Arnett, the longest-serving reporter in South

Vietnam, covered the war for the Associated Press from 1962-1975.

Also taking part in the weekend activities will be Pulitzer Prize winning journalists Philip Caputo, Stanley Karnow and Sydney Schanberg, and former *Time* magazine correspondent Wallace Terry and former UPI correspondent and OPC member Joseph Galloway.

The symposium is free and open to the public. For information call (757) 221-2628.





Andrew Rosenthal, David Satter and Robert Legvold flank moderator Jackie Albert-Simon.

## Panel on Putin: Not Optimistic

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Yeltsin against those who wanted him out, and next became Yeltsin's prime minister and the man he chose to replace him as acting president when Yeltsin resigned at the beginning of 2000.

We know Putin through his conduct of the brutal and unrelenting war on Chechnya, through his disingenuous refusal to campaign actively, disingenuous since the government and the oligarchs who support Putin control the media to a large extent. We know that he has brought into the government, and as advisors, friends he feels he can trust from St. Petersburg and former KGB colleagues, though the Yeltsin circle, "the family" as it's known, still seems intact and in control. Rosenthal mentioned that as far as Russian-US relations, these gen-

erally continue on a slow historic track, rather than reflect the views of one man, though the public is inclined to think in more personal terms.

All three speakers addressed the appalling corruption and criminality inside Russia, to the extent that consensus was that this "criminalization of the state," to use Dr. Legvold's phrase is so far beyond what we in the West label racketeering and mafia techniques, that it has shaken the psychological and social spirit of the Russian people beyond what we can imagine.

David Satter declared it very doubtful that any one man could rebuild the architecture of a strong state in the short range, considering the strength and the infighting of the oligarchs, who will hold on to their money and power as ruthlessly as is necessary. These men, said Satter, have so much inside knowledge of each other through their private security systems, that blackmail and not trust is the name of the game. In his favor, it seems that Putin understands the need for control, for restoration of law and order, at least in his rhetoric, but he has not yet unveiled any program, nor set priorities. Portents, added Satter, are not favorable for him or the Russian state, particularly if he remains to some extent a prisoner of the family, since it's that support that has brought him to his present position. Without the establishment of an independent judiciary and a lucid legal system, it's more than likely we will continue to see a slow, deadly degradation of Russia.

Robert Legvold commented on the dramatic level of corruption throughout the Russian society, agreeing with David

Satter that what is actually needed is a strong central state again, "renationalized" to restore credibility to Russia itself. It's not clear that Putin understands that repression or control alone cannot do it, Legvold feels. As Rosenthal mentioned earlier, Legvold declared that forces larger than one man are what have been driving Russian-US relations steadily apart.

The expansion of NATO, then Kosovo, then the West's criticism of the war in Chechnya (the means by which Putin secured his national popularity) have served to obscure our real common interests and stakes. It does appear, however, that Putin would like to keep affairs with the West on an even keel while he applies himself domestically, witness his congenial visit with Tony Blair and earlier, in a meeting with Bill Clinton, and the deal the Russians made with the so-called London Club to guarantee, over a 30-year period, more than 65% of the former Soviet's private debt if the London Club would write off the rest.

But in fact, Legvold sees no good news in foreign relations with the US, even if Putin might welcome that, because not only events, but domestic pressures, show no signs in the US, not in the legislature, not in the administration even with a new executive leadership, to focus on Russia in a way that's potentially constructive in the relationship.

In response to a question on the meaning of the new national security doctrine, Dr. Legvold pointed out that Russia, moving since 1993 from no first use in the event that Russia's "security might be threatened" has now effectively lowered the nuclear threshold. The new doctrine declares "we will not pledge *not* to use nuclear forces in the event of aggression," thus effectively lowering the nuclear threshold and moving toward the process of nuclearization of Russian foreign policy. The statement speaks of those many states that would weaken Russia economically, politically and militarily. Decoded, the reference is to the US and to NATO. The policy was in fact worked out about a year-and-a-half ago when Putin was head of the national security agency. The sense in Russia is to restore a moral hardline in foreign policy, supporting the rights of man in the narrow sense that all individuals have the right to security.

That actually means, Legvold said, it would be politically untenable for either candidate in the US presidential campaign to retreat from support of the ABM project.

### A Gift to OPC

Kiyoko Taubkin has donated \$10,000 to the OPC in memory of her husband, Irvin S. Taubkin, a public relations executive for *The New York Times*. Mr. Taubkin, affectionately known as "Tauby," was once an editor of the *OPC Bulletin*. During World War II he served in the Army as a reporter and copy editor for the London edition of *Stars & Stripes*.



Irvin S. Taubkin



## PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

**ATCHISON, Kansas:** Atchison, a Missouri River town of 10,500 population, is the birthplace of aviation pioneer **Amelia Earhart**. A frequent visitor to Atchison from her home in Virginia is OPC founding member **Fay Gillis Wells**, 91, also a pioneering pilot; foreign correspondent in Europe, Africa and Asia; White House reporter; and a friend of Earhart's. This winter for a book signing, Fay was joined at the Atchison Public Library by **Sara Rimmerman**, the 12-year-old girl who wrote "Hidden Heroine" [Kansas City: Rose Publishing, 1999], a biography of Wells, and her sister, **Rachel Rimmerman**, 10, who wrote a poem for the book (August 1999 *Bulletin*). The Rimmerman girls live in nearby Kansas City, Missouri.



Fay Gillis Wells (right) signs books written by sisters Sara and Rachel Rimmerman.

**DELRAY BEACH, Florida:** In March, three former presidents of our reciprocal Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ) held a reunion dinner in Florida, where each maintains a winter home in nearby towns. Chewing the fat over old times in Tokyo were **Marvin Stone**, FCCJ president 1956-1957 when he was with International News Service; OPC member **John Rich**, 1970-1971, NBC News; and **Max Desfor**, 1974-1975, Associated Press. From Florida, Rich went to Boulder, Colorado, for a conference of former U.S. Navy officers trained in the Japanese language during World War II. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, with the United States short of academic and linguistic specialists on Japan, the Navy organized Japanese language schools at several universities with Nisei teachers, and Rich was one of the first students at the Colorado school, 1942-1943.

**EDINBURGH, Scotland:** BBC lost its bid to televise the trial of two Libyans

charged with the 1998 bombing of a Pan American jet over Scotland, killing 270 people. Lord MacFadyen, a Scottish High Court judge, ruled in March: "In my opinion, the petitioners have failed to demonstrate that televising the proceedings would entail no risk to the administration of justice."

**FRANKFURT, Germany:** With business newspapers and magazines proliferating in Germany, *The Financial Times* of London in late February started publishing a German business daily, *Financial Times Deutschland*. **Andrew Gowers** is executive director of the new paper that is produced by its own staff of 130 reporters and editors and printed at four plants in Germany. In a dispatch from Frankfurt, **Edmund L. Andrews** of *The New York Times* reported: "Thanks in part to a boom in German high-technology stocks and a revolution in attitudes toward investing, Germany has become a battleground for new business publications." The general-interest newspapers *Die Welt* and *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* have increased their business sections, and owners of the business paper *Handelsblatt* have started a new weekly magazine, *Telebörse*, and formed an alliance with Dow Jones and *The Wall Street Journal Europe*. In March after the first week of a marketing campaign and redesign of *The Wall Street Journal's* European edition, Dow Jones said newsstand sales had increased 40 percent in Germany, 38 percent in the United Kingdom and 21 percent in France.



Andrew Gowers

**HONG KONG:** **Philip Segal**, president of our reciprocal Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong (FCC) and a new member of the OPC, reported in February "that for the first time in many months, the FCC returned to profitability in the month of December." Segal, a correspondent for the *International Herald Tribune*, said revenue now allows the Club to set aside HK\$300,000 (about U.S.\$38,540)

monthly, for contingencies. Located in Hong Kong's central business district in a brick building that once housed an ice house and bachelor quarters for British employees of a food company, Club facilities include dining rooms, bars, rooms for private functions and an exercise room. Meanwhile, Segal was married in January to **Deborah Druck**.



Deborah Druck and Philip Segal

During a March trip to Hong Kong from her Virginia home, **Nancy Hartzenbusch**, widow of longtime OPC member **Henry Hartzenbusch**, met with several old friends from the days they lived in Manila, Tokyo and Hong Kong including **Yu (Fish) Wei**, for many years a Taiwan government spokesman, and his wife, **Loretta**; **Bob Liu**, an AP correspondent in Hong Kong since the 1950s; and Hong Kong-based journalists **Bill Hartley**, a former *Wall Street Journal* reporter in Tokyo, and **Bud Pratt**, former NBC News correspondent in Hong Kong. Nancy works for the U.S. State Department as a guide for Spanish-speaking visitors, and she's a court interpreter. **Lara**, one of her three daughters, is a news producer for **Rupert Murdoch's** Hong Kong-based STAR-TV that broadcasts throughout Asia.

**ITHACA, New York:** OPC member **Dan Morris** received prompt greetings when he wrote to our reciprocal London Press Club to report that he would be in England in March and April. Back came a fax welcoming him to visit the Club. An author and editor, Morris was going to England to teach a technical writing course to university students. Proud of his engineering profession, Morris wrote in a February issue of *The Ithaca Times*: "The most significant event of 1776 did not occur in Philadelphia, but in London with the hanging-out of a street shingle that proclaimed a new profession: 'John Smeaton, Civil Engineer.'"

**LINCOLN, Nebraska:** Decked out  
(Continued on Page 6)



## PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 5)

in a red fedora, OPC member **Barney Oldfield**, 90, announced in March that he is giving \$500,000 to provide scholarships for Nebraska students entering college. The gift will fund the start-up of a Dollars for Scholars organization in Nebraska, named for Barney and his wife Vada, who died last year. Dollars for Scholars chapters have been organized in 825 U.S. communities, and the Oldfield gift will expand the program in Nebraska. The *Omaha World-Herald* said Oldfield now has donated nearly \$6 million to Nebraska scholarship and medical research programs. Last year he announced a contest to select 59 kinder-

garten students who will receive \$2,000 if they graduate from high school and enter college (January *Bulletin*). Born in Nebraska, Oldfield, who now lives in Beverly Hills, California, is a retired U.S. Air Force colonel and Hollywood publicist.

**LONDON:** Myron Belkind, AP's London bureau chief, invited the Dalai Lama to be the guest of honor at a reception attended by 40 members of the Association of American Correspondents in London. For one hour, the Dalai Lama answered questions from the reporters. Belkind, president of the Association in 1999, its 80th anniversary year, showed the Dalai Lama an album of AP photos of the Tibetan religious leader's life.

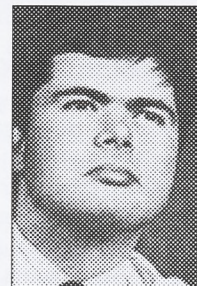


Myron Belkind and the Dalai Lama

**LOS ANGELES:** A new Internet site, [lowermybills.com](http://lowermybills.com), was launched in February to help consumers research, compare and lower bills on utilities, telephones, wireless, ISP, credit cards, television, loans, insurance and debt consolidation. OPC member **David Horowitz** is the site's consumer advocate, consultant and spokesperson. "The first time I used [lowermybills.com](http://lowermybills.com) I was able to save more than 20 percent on my home electric bill," Horowitz said.

**MOSCOW:** A criminal probe was launched after OPC award winner **Artyom Borovik**, a prominent Russian investigative journalist, and eight other people were killed March 9 when their chartered three-engine Yak-40 passenger jet crashed on takeoff from Moscow's Sheremetyevo One domestic airport. A special correspondent for CBS News "60 Minutes," Borovik, shared the OPC's 1991 Edward R. Murrow Award with CBS producer **George Crile** for best television interpretation of foreign affairs. Also killed in the crash was Ziya Bazhayev, 39, head of Alliance Group, an oil-trading company. "Moscow investigators opened a crimi-

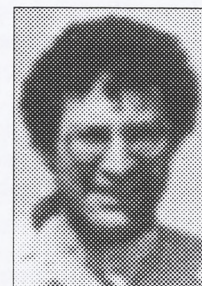
nal inquiry into whether the flight violated air-safety rules, and one official told the Interfax news service that a terrorist act had not been ruled out," **Michael Wines** of *The New York Times* reported. "An official of the Federal Security Service, the domestic successor to the Soviet KGB, said that Mr. Bazhayev, who is of Chechen descent, had received threats because he had refused to supply weapons to rebels in the war in Chechnya."



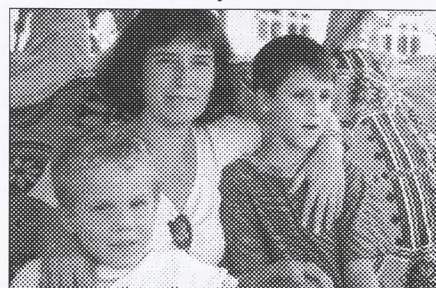
Artyom Borovik

The 1991 OPC citation called the Borovik-Crile "60 Minutes" report, titled "Room 19," a "provocative piece [that] examined the medical lab where the brains of leading Soviets were pickled, stored and studied. The reporting brought out the bureaucratic chaos and bizarre behavior that seemed to have engulfed the Soviet leadership." Borovik, whose age was given as 38 or 39, became famous for his critical dispatches on the war in Afghanistan. He organized *Sovershenno Sekretno Holding* (Top Secret), a small media conglomerate that produced investigative newspaper reports and television programs.

**NEW DELHI:** When *The New York Times* asked **Celia Dugger** and **Barry Bearak** to become co-chiefs of the New Delhi bureau in 1998, the married couple's chief concern was whether India would be the right place for their two sons. "As it turns out, both boys have adjusted well and are very happy," Bearak commented in the spring issue of *Inside*, a *Times* newsletter distributed to home delivery



Barry Bearak



Celia Dugger with Sam and Max

## Welcome to Our New Members

### Wally Beene

Retired Journalism Professor  
University of Arizona  
associate non resident

### Tom Brokaw

Anchor and Managing Editor  
NBC Nightly News  
active resident

### F. Reese Brown

Freelance Journalist  
active resident

### Steven L. Herman

Bureau Chief  
Discovery Channel-Asia  
Tokyo  
active overseas

### William J. Rademaekers

Retired Time, Inc.  
England  
associate overseas

### Christopher John Redman

Editor, Time magazine  
London  
active overseas

### Tracy Wilkinson

Bureau Chief  
Los Angeles Times  
Jerusalem  
active overseas

### ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

George Bookman, chair  
Elinor Griest  
Dwight Sargent



subscribers. "Max, our 9-year-old, has developed a cabdriver's knowledge of New Delhi's geography and a passion for cricket, and Sam is a very outgoing 4-year-old. Both are learning about India and the region along with us while we are reporting stories." Dugger added: "The Times understood [our concern] and promised that Barry and I would not have to travel at the same time. We trade off on travel, take turns. When one of us gets home from covering a story, the baton is passed to the other. One of us is always on assignment."

**NEW YORK:** In one of his nationally-syndicated newspaper columns published in March, OPC member **Andy Rooney** wrote: "There are few jobs more dangerous than writing a column.... When you make a mistake or say something stupid in a column, everyone can read it, reread it and then clip it out of the newspaper so they can save it and reread it a month or even years later to remind themselves of what an idiot you are." To check facts, Rooney often relied on **Alexander Kendrick** for whom one of the OPC Foundation Scholarships is named: "For many years, I had an office next door to the CBS correspondent **Alex Kendrick**, and several times a day I'd go in to ask a question. Alex always knew the name of the premier of China. He could name both senators from Nebraska or tell you it was John Hinckley who wounded President Reagan in 1981."

Each Sunday the New York *Daily News* runs a full-page feature article on a historic crime. On March 5, the newspaper published a report on the criminal attack against former OPC President **Victor Riesel** that left him blinded for the rest of his life. At about 2:40 a.m. on April 5, 1956, after a radio broadcast in which he blasted leaders of a New York union for corruption, and followed by a late supper at Lindy's, Riesel was walking to his car in New York City when someone threw sulfuric acid in his face. Then 41, Riesel was crusading against labor racketeering in his column, syndicated in 193 daily newspapers. FBI investigation led to several arrests and convictions on charges related to the attack. Never to see again, Riesel continued touch typing his column, and his wife **Evelyn** read the daily papers to him. He wrote: "I wasn't important as a man, but I was important as a symbol.



**Victor Riesel**

The attack on me was an attack on the entire free press, challenging its right to expose crime and injustice." Riesel continued his column until 1990. In the mid-1960s, years after he was blinded, Riesel was elected president of the OPC, and he continued to attend board meetings for many years when he was a past president. He died in 1995 at age 81. With Riesel the night of the attack was **Abe Savage**, then public relations director for the American Federation of Musicians. During the 1960s, Savage, who also ran a travel service, frequently visited Tokyo, where he became almost a permanent guest member at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ). Full of humor, Savage handed out business cards with type so small that a magnifying glass was required to read his name, and he helped produce some of the satirical sketches performed at the FCCJ's annual anniversary dinners.

**Antonio A. Kamiya** transferred in February to the New York bureau of Kyodo News from Tokyo, where he was senior news editor in Kyodo's World Services Section. Before joining Kyodo, Japan's national news agency, Kamiya was a UPI correspondent in Hong Kong in the 1970s and in Tokyo in the 1980s. This is Kamiya's second assignment in the United States. The Macao-born newsman worked in Kyodo's Washington bureau in the early 1990s. "New York certainly offers more things to do than does Washington," he told the *Bulletin*. Shortly after his arrival in the Big Apple, Kamiya called on a former UPI Tokyo colleague, **Marie Okabe**, now associate spokesperson at the United Nations.

On his first visit to the United States, **John Guo**, a Dow Jones editor in Beijing, said he "was amazed to see so many different faces—white, black, brown and yellow faces. This is my first glimpse of a melting pot, leaving my head spinning in the swirl of millions of colored faces." Writing in *The Dow Jones Bulletin*, the company's employee newsletter, Guo reported a striking difference between Beijing and New York City: "The mixing of people is unheard

of in China. Even in Beijing, foreigners and ethnic people are looked at as a sort of decoration; they don't actually live and work together with local Chinese. In fact, all foreign people are required to stay in compounds especially built for them. In the Chinese news agency where I worked before I joined Dow Jones, we even had to seek approval from the boss before inviting a foreign guest home.... But here, even in the Jersey City apartment building where I'm staying, it's like the League of Nations. Japanese, Koreans, Chinese, Americans and others live there together and barely seem to even notice their differences." Guo wrote that he heard more Chinese dialects in New York's Chinatown than he had ever heard in one place in China. In Chinatown, he found more mixes: a Spanish-speaking man selling hot dogs under a Chinese sign, an African-American woman waiting on customers at her gloves stand and a white male clerk in an electronics store who greeted Guo and two friends, "Here come *ma ma, hu hu* people." Guo explained: "*Ma ma hu hu*, an idiom that means careless in Chinese, is a popular word among foreign students in Beijing because it's easy to pronounce."



**John Guo**

AP correspondents on the move: **Donna Bryson** from news editor in New Delhi to Middle East news editor in Cairo; **Tom Cohen**, Central Europe correspondent in Warsaw to Toronto bureau chief; **David Crary**, Toronto bureau chief to national writer in New York; **Laurinda Keys**, Singapore correspondent to news editor in New Delhi; **Gerald G. LaBelle**, chief Middle East correspondent in Cairo to news editor in New York; **Jocelyn Noveck**, Paris news editor to bureau chief in Israel; **Nick Tatro**, Jerusalem bureau chief to deputy international editor in New York; **Christopher Torchia**, Jakarta news editor to Seoul bureau chief; **Donna Khalil Abu-Nasr**, Washington to Cairo correspondent; **Lisa J. Adams**, New York to Mexico City correspondent; **David C. Carpenter**, Vienna news editor to Chicago; **James E. Heintz**, Stockholm news editor to Moscow; **Burt Herman**, New York to Frankfurt correspondent;

(Continued on Page 8)



## PEOPLE

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**Slobodan Lekic**, Washington to Jakarta news editor; **Dafna T. Linzer**, Jerusalem to New York; **Craig W. Nelson**, New York to Nairobi correspondent; **Peter J. Spielman**, Sydney to New York; **Todd Zaun**, Tokyo to New York; and **Alexandra C. Zavis**, New York to Abidjan correspondent.

Meanwhile, **Phil Brown**, who spent most of his AP reporting career in Japan, has retired after 36 years with the wire service. In 1968, Brown was transferred from the New York foreign desk to Tokyo, where he became night supervisor. Also a sports writer, he reported on 10 Olympics and 10 Asian Games. He covered Chairman Mao Tse-tung's death in 1976 and was based in Beijing from 1980-1983. AP's Tokyo staff held a retirement party for Brown and his wife, **Evelyn**.



Phil Brown and wife Evelyn

Announced in March, three of the 13 George Polk Awards for 1999 went to correspondents covering international news. **Charles J. Hanley**, **Martha Mendoza**, **Sang-hun Choe** and **Randy Herschaft** of AP won an award for their reports that American soldiers machine-gunned hundreds of civilians under a bridge in the early weeks of the Korean War. **Paul Watson** of *The Los Angeles Times* was honored for his three-month coverage of the Kosovo War. Reporter **Olenka Frenkiel**, producer **Giselle Portenier** and executive producer **Finona Murch** of BBC won an award for their documentary about conservative Muslim men in rural Pakistan who maim or kill women family members suspected of infidelity. ABC broadcast the BBC program in the United States. Established in 1949 and administered by Long Island University, the awards are named for **George W. Polk**, a CBS newsman who was murdered after trying to see a Communist guerrilla leader during the late 1940s civil war in Greece.

With staffers posted around the world, *Life* magazine pioneered photojournalism and reported on global events from the Great Depression through World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Launched in 1936 before television, *Life* introduced what then was a revolutionary way to report the news—through storytelling pictures. With a cover photo by **Margaret Bourke-White** (1906-1971), its first issue sold out on newsstands within hours. In the 1950s, the magazine reached its peak readership, eight million. Facing competition from television, Time Inc. discontinued the weekly magazine in 1972 and re-started it as a monthly in 1978. Now once again, *Life* ceases regular publication in May but will publish special issues from time to time. Newsstand sales and circulation has dropped to 1.5 million from 1.8 million in 1991, and total annual advertising pages fell from 730 in 1998 to 665 last year. "Circulation economics are changing for the whole industry," **Don Logan**, Time Inc.'s chief executive said. "It is tough for general-interest magazines which don't have a fairly endemic advertising base to draw from over the long term." The March 27 issue of *Newsweek*, a Time-Life competitor, published "A farewell to the magazine that chronicled the American Century in pictures from the beaches of Normandy to the hills of Hollywood." **Kenneth Auchincloss**, *Newsweek*'s editor-at-large, wrote: "Everything seemed possible for the magazine in its glory days....*Life* virtually invented photojournalism....No task was too unthinkable, no expense too great."

OPC member **Michael Elliott** left *Newsweek* in April to join eCountries, a web startup company that focuses on the global economy. He joined *Newsweek* in 1993 as diplomatic editor, and when he left was editor of the magazine's international editions published in English, Japanese, Korean, Russian and Spanish. Before *Newsweek*, Elliott was Washington bureau chief for *The Economist*. In a memo to his staff, **Richard M. Smith**, *Newsweek*'s chairman and editor-in-chief, commented: "Over the last seven years, Mike has made a major contribution to *Newsweek* in both our domestic and international editions. We will sorely miss his legendary energy, his cheery intelligence and his creative entrepreneurial spirit." Keeping international on track during the interim will be

the magazine's international managing editor, OPC member **Alexis Gelber**, and Editor-at-Large **Kenneth Auchincloss**, Smith told the staff.

**OLD LYME, Connecticut:** OPC member **John Langone**'s next book, "The Mystery of Time" (the concept, not the magazine), will be published this year by the National Geographic Society. It's a detailed look at the cultural, religious, philosophical and scientific elements of time.

**PARIS:** Colleagues and friends in the French media recently attended a party honoring **Michel Lipchitz**, an AP photographer for his 35 years covering stories around the world. Lipchitz, who started in the days of the Speed Graphic, covered wars in Algeria, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf; Winter and Summer Olympic Games; the return of Ayatollah Khomeini in Iran; and the funeral of Princess Grace in Monaco, where he obtained the only photos of her lying in state.



Michel Lipchitz

**PHUKET, Thailand:** The *Phuket Gazette*, an English-language newspaper published fortnightly on Phuket, a popular resort island, never lacks for hard news. "There's a Wild West feel about the place, and we've managed to break some really great stories," said **Alasdair Forbes**, the paper's editor since last year after 11 years in Hong Kong, where he ended up as publisher of *Asia Business* magazine. "We've revealed that the Thai banks were paying a lower rate of interest to foreigners than they were to locals, run a full investigation into the country's incomprehensible visa laws and reported the heavy-handed tactics of the Immigration Police who were hammering on expats' doors late at night demanding to see papers." The *Gazette* came in for its own news when it received death threats. With a circulation that reaches 12,000 during the peak tourist season, the 36-page paper is making money and maintains an Internet



Alasdair Forbes



web site: [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net), with daily news bulletins, classified ads and a readers' poll.

**SINGAPORE:** Off to Singapore is OPC member Justin Doebele, the new senior editor (Asia) for *Forbes Global* edition. He has been at *Forbes* for six years and was the first staff writer for *Forbes Global* when it was started in 1998. Before joining *Forbes*, Doebele helped launch Bloomberg's coverage of Asian markets. He has lived and worked in Japan for three years.

**SUVA, Fiji: Robert C. (Baldy) Miller**, 84, whose United Press battlefield datelines include Guadalcanal, Normandy, Korea, Dien Bien Phu and Quemoy, is helping establish a scholarship for Fijians to study communications. The scholarship is named for Father Marion Ganey, a Jesuit priest who established credit unions for the poor while serving as a missionary in British Honduras and Fiji, where he died in 1984. One evening at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva, Ganey, who was born in Illinois, told Miller that he probably would have spent his life as a parish priest in the U.S. Middle West except that he was born and grew up in a town on the Mississippi River. "Seeing all those boats and barges moving up and down the river made me want to go where they were going, and even a lot farther," the priest was quoted in a long article written by Miller.

**TEHERAN:** Saeed Hajjarian, 47, publisher of the newspaper *Sobh-e-Emrooz*, was shot in the face March 12 by a gunman who escaped. Hajjarian, a reform leader in Iran, was entering municipal headquarters in central Tehran when the assailant dismounted from the back of a motorcycle and fired twice at almost point-blank range. One bullet lodged in the editor's neck. The gunman and driver then escaped on their motorcycle into heavy traffic. A day later, a doctor



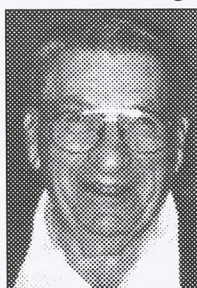
Saeed Hajjarian

said the publisher may have suffered irreversible brain damage because of oxygen starvation immediately after the shooting. In the Feb. 18 election, reform candidates won about three-quarters of the 290

Parliamentary seats. A principal organizer of that landslide victory, Hajjarian in campaign speeches and in his newspaper was an outspoken critic of Iran's conservative Islamic clerics, who wield most of the power in that nation.

For her CNN documentary "Revolutionary Journey" that was broadcast in February and March, **Christiane Amanpour**, the network's chief international correspondent, returned last October and again in February to Teheran, where she grew up, and she visited the house where she lived with her family until they fled to London after Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution. Confiscated by the revolutionary court in 1980, the house recently has been reclaimed by the Amanpours. Her father also visited Teheran, where the family celebrated his 85th birthday. One of Amanpour's cousins who had been living in Paris moved back to Teheran to open an Internet cafe.

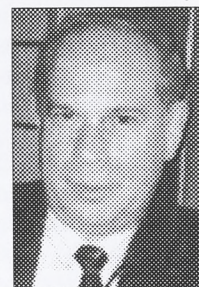
**TOKYO:** Lester Tenney, 79, a professor emeritus of economics and finance at Arizona State University, is one of the World War II prisoners involved in a class action suit filed last year in a U.S. Federal Court against five Japanese corporations for allegedly forcing POWs to work without pay (October 1999 *Bulletin*). A U.S. Army soldier in the Philippines, Tenney was captured by Japanese troops in April 1942 and herded into the



Lester Tenney

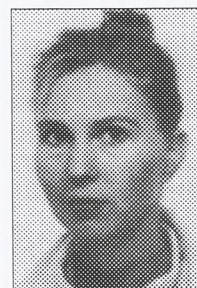
Bataan Death March. He described his experiences at a news conference in our reciprocal Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ) late last year: "If you stopped to defecate, you were killed. If you fell down, you were killed. If you had malaria, you were killed." Shipped to Japan, Tenney and other POWs were put to work in a coal mine owned by Mitsui, one of the corporate defendants in the class action suit. "I was a forced slave laborer for Mitsui," he said. "I shoveled coal for two and a half years, 12 hours a day." Tenney was one of the Americans who, from their POW camp, saw the cloud and heard the blast of the atomic bomb at Hiroshima. OPC member **Linda Goetz Holmes** conducted some of the research in preparing the class-action suit.

The FCCJ has awarded life membership to **Charles Pomeroy**, who has been a reporter in Japan since the 1960s, specializing on the health care industry. Pomeroy was honored for suggesting and overseeing the writing and editing of a 50-year history of the club since its founding in 1945 immediately after the end of World War II. Pomeroy was general editor of the book, "Foreign Correspondents in Japan" [Rutland, Vermont, and Tokyo: Tuttle, 1998], a year-by-year account of club activities and the work and antics of its members. FCCJ life membership is limited to past Club presidents and a few members selected for outstanding service to the Club.

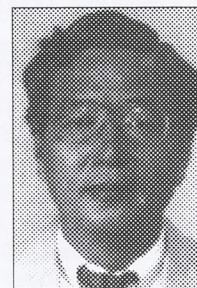


Charles Pomeroy

New faces in the FCCJ include **Carolien Van Tilburg** of the Dutch newspaper *De Telegraaf*; **Kenji Fukasawa**, a correspondent in Houston, Texas, 1989-1992, for *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*, Japan's leading business daily, and now an editor at the newspaper's *Nikkei Weekly*; **Wahei Sakurai**, an editor in Reuters' Tokyo bureau; and **Eric Weiner**, Tokyo bureau chief for National Public Radio (NPR) of the United States. Starting his career in 1989 as a *New York Times* reporter in New York City, Weiner was NPR correspondent in New Delhi, 1993-1995, and Jerusalem, 1995-1999.



Carolien Van Tilburg



Kenji Fukasawa

**TORONTO:** Kay Ricketts, Japanese widow of **Al Ricketts**, one of the best known writers on *Pacific Stars & Stripes* after World War II, retired recently as a music talent promotion executive and has moved from Tokyo to Toronto, where she has relatives. For several years as a civilian on the staff of the U.S. military newspaper published in Tokyo, Al, short,

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## PEOPLE

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rotund and usually puffing a cigar, wrote the hugely-popular column "On the Town" that dealt with fun places, restaurants, entertainers and other people who livened up the scene in Japan. "Kay was Al's assistant columnist, since he never got past the *mushi mushi* [Japanese for "hello" on the telephone] knowledge of the language," the *Stars & Stripes Association News* reported. Al Ricketts died some 30 years ago. A dance band played at his funeral.

**WASHINGTON:** Terry Anderson's \$100 million lawsuit against Iran's government for his 2,454 days captivity in Lebanon by Iranian-backed terrorists is being heard in a Federal District Court in Washington. Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson ruled in February that Iran was in default because it had not responded to the case nor sent a representative to the trial despite being notified through diplomatic channels. Several years ago, the U.S. Congress passed a law that lets American victims of terrorism sue a country if the State Department has named that country a sponsor of terrorism. Iran has not paid two 1998 U.S. judgments against it: \$247.5 million in a death suit and \$65 million in a kidnapping case. But Anderson told *The New York Times*: "This law was designed to make terrorism expensive. And we are going to make it expensive for Iran."

## Clarion Awards Deadline

The Association for Women in Communications has set May 1 as the deadline for the AWC's 28th Annual Clarion Awards honoring outstanding communicators.

The competition is open to women and men, AWC members and non-members and prizes are given in Advertising and Marketing, Audio-visual Productions, Books and CD-ROMs, Brochures, Magazines, Newsletters, Newspapers, On-line Media, Photography and Graphics, Public Relations, Radio and Television.

For information contact the AWC by phone at (410) 544-7442, on the Web at [www.womcom.org](http://www.womcom.org) and E-mail at [clarion@womcom.org](mailto:clarion@womcom.org)

During one court hearing, OPC member **Dan Rather** testified for Anderson. "I don't know anybody in journalism who wasn't in one way or another intimidated [by Anderson's kidnapping]," the CBS news anchor said. Anderson was taken captive in 1985 when he was AP's chief Middle East correspondent. Now 52, he is teaching journalism at Ohio University and serving on the board of the Committee to Protect Journalists.

**CORRECTION:** The March *Bulletin* item about **Kristina Shevory's** work in St. Petersburg, Russia, contained a typographical error. Kristina, an OPC Foundation Scholarship winner, said: "Nevsky Prospect, the main city street, is now [not "not"] chock full of stores."

## IN MEMORY

**Alexander Dreier**, 83, a war correspondent in Europe during World War II, died March 12 at his home in Rancho Mirage, California. Dreier went to Europe for United Press in 1939 and reported from Germany until the Nazis expelled him in 1941. He then moved to London where he worked for BBC. From 1948-1965, Dreier broadcast for radio and television affiliates of NBC and ABC in Chicago. After moving to Los Angeles in 1967, he reported for several California television stations until 1992. Known for his thunderous delivery, Dreier, who once weighed more than 400 pounds, won seven Emmy Awards.

OPC member **John Douglas Le Vien**, 81, a newsreel editor who won an Oscar for a documentary on Adolf Hitler, died last Nov. 9 at a hospital in London, where he lived. He was executive producer of "Black Fox," a 90-minute documentary film about Hitler that was narrated by Marlene Dietrich and won the 1963 Academy Award for best documentary. From 1939-1940, Le Vien worked as an office boy, film editor and reporter for Pathé News in New York. During World War II, he was a U.S. Army press officer. He served as chief press officer with the Allied Task Force invading Algeria; set up press camps in Tunisia, Italy, France and Germany; participated in four invasion landings; and served as a press aide to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. Le Vien returned to Pathé News in 1946 as news editor, general manager, editor-in-chief and vice president. When Pathé News shut down in 1956, he joined Hearst Metrotone News in New York as director

of production and three years later became an independent motion picture and television producer. He wrote four books: "The Valiant Years," "The Finest Hours," "The Duchess of Windsor" and "Churchill and the Generals."

**Charles W. Barry**, 63, a former television reporter in the United States and freelance journalist in Peru, died Feb. 26 of congestive heart failure at his Arlington, Virginia, home. After working as a reporter for TV stations in Omaha and Cleveland, and reporting from Lima, he worked in press and public relations for the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Labor Department and utility companies.

**Thomas M. Coffey**, 78, a journalist who wrote books about wars around the world, died of cancer Feb. 24 in Santa Monica, California. His books include "Agony at Easter," an account of the Irish Easter Rebellion; "Imperial Tragedy" dealing with World War II inside Japan; "Decision Over Schweinfurt" about U.S. bombing strategy during World War II; and "Lion by the Tail," a history of Italian-Ethiopian conflicts. A U.S. Army Air Corps pilot in the Pacific during World War II, Coffey started his writing career as a film and drama critic for the *Los Angeles Mirror*, the now defunct sister paper of *The Los Angeles Times*.

**Lawrence K. Chang**, 86, for many years a Taiwan-based photographer for American TV and magazines, died Jan. 31 in a Taipei hospital after a long illness. Born in Beijing, Chang studied engineering in Japan but devoted his career to film



**Lawrence Chang**

and lenses, becoming one of Taiwan's most respected international newsmen, a genial and friendly guy. A cameraman for NBC News and a photographer for *Time-Life*, Chang covered conflicts in the Taiwan Straits between the Communist-ruled China mainland and Nationalist-ruled Taiwan. He photographed the 1955 evacuation of Nationalist troops from the Tachen Islands carried out with U.S. air and naval support, the last territory surrendered to the Communists by President Chiang Kai-shek's troops, and the 1958 battles

(Continued on Page 11)



## NEW BOOKS

(Continued from Page 12)

correspondent's uniform. After the war, she covered the Nuremberg war crimes trials. **William Murray**, for more than 30 years a staff writer at *The New Yorker*, writes about Flanner's lesbian affair with his mother in "Janet, My Mother, and Me: A Memoir of Growing Up With Janet Flanner and Natalia Danesi Murray" [New York: Simon & Schuster]. His mother was Natalia Murray, a publisher, who was married to his father, the senior

## PEOPLE

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over the Nationalists-held offshore islands of Quemoy and Matsu. OPC member **John Rich** worked with Chang on several NBC stories in the Taiwan area. "He was a sweet guy, and so well clued in," Rich told the *Bulletin*. "During the Communist shelling of Quemoy, we spent a week together on the island doing a story on its defenses, eating with the Nationalist troops. It was bone-chilling cold the whole damn time." Chang, who also reported from the Korean, Vietnam and Cambodian Wars, once escorted *Time* founder **Henry Luce** on a tour of Taiwan and covered many events on the island before retiring four years ago.

◆ **Richard K. O'Malley**, 88, a longtime AP foreign correspondent, died Nov. 9 in Sun City, Arizona. He covered the U.S. Navy during World War II and was aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay for Japan's 1945 surrender. He was a Moscow correspondent in 1955 and later bureau chief in Paris, Denver, Cyprus and Germany.

◆ **Francisco Diaz Roncero**, 93, who spent more than 70 years as a reporter for French and American news agencies and never retired, died of cancer last June 18 in Paris. In 1926, Diaz Roncero started with AP in Madrid. Later he was a newspaper political editor before joining Havas, the French news agency, in Paris in 1939. During World War II, he served with an underground resistance group made up of journalists. After the war, he returned to Havas, later renamed Agence-France Presse, and rejoined AP's Paris bureau in 1969. At his death, Diaz Roncero had nearly finished a book about his life titled "My First 70 Years." He received France's Legion of Honor and the Order of Arts and Letters.

William Murray, who ran the New York branch of the William Morris talent agency. The author writes: "Envisioning my mother in bed with anyone, male or female, was not something that preoccupied me. I didn't believe that women, unlike men, could be exclusively homosexual. My mother had married my father and given birth to me, hadn't she? All women were susceptible to the male. I imagined no exceptions."

• In "Rivonia's Children: Three Families and the Cost of Conscience in White South Africa" [New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux], **Glenn Frankel**, former Johannesburg bureau chief for *The Washington Post* and winner of a 1989 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting, looks at the small number of whites who joined opposition politics to work for multiracial democracy when prospects for success were negligible. *Foreign Affairs* commented: "Although the book breaks little new ground historically, it offers the general reader a dramatic glimpse into an era when South Africa's future was at a crossroads and only a few brave souls, white as well as black, chose the path less traveled."

• The *Bulletin's* March item on **Richard Z. Chesnoff's** latest book, "Pack of Thieves: How Hitler and Europe Plundered the Jews and Committed the Greatest Theft in History" [New York: Doubleday], failed to mention that the author won a 1992 OPC award for his work on an exposé of Saddam Hussein's military power published in *U.S. News & World Report* two months before the Gulf crisis started. Chesnoff, who has reported from the Mideast, Africa, Europe and the United Nations, joined *U.S. News* in 1985 and now is senior correspondent for the magazine and a columnist for New York's *Daily News*. Before joining *U.S. News*, he was executive editor of *Newsweek International*. In his new book, Chesnoff writes: "In every nation of Europe where the genocidal Nazi machine dragged Jews away to their death, there were upstanding local citizens waiting to loot what was left behind—art dealers in Paris, hotel keepers in Budapest, stockbrokers in Amsterdam, grocers in Lyons, department store owners in Brussels, manufacturers in Oslo, peasant farmers and housewives from



**Richard Z. Chesnoff**

Latvia to Transylvania, and everywhere bankers, lawyers, and financiers—all barely able to contain themselves at the prospect of picking at the bones of their Jewish neighbors."

• From Boston, OPC member **Rufus Goodwin** reports that his latest "book has appeared in England, [and] American rights are up for grabs." But by March, no U.S. publisher had grabbed his book, Goodwin told the *Bulletin*. "Valentine for a Waitress" [London: Minerva Press] is described by the author as a "cameo novella [that] celebrates a feisty working girl and features an Afterword telling the blow by blow tale of making the sale of a belletristic novel after hitting a total stone wall in the American market." Author of several earlier books [April 1999 *Bulletin*], Goodwin covered the Vatican for UPI in the days when the wire service's stars included former OPC President **H. L. Stevenson**, **Roger Tatarian**, **Paul Allen**, **Louis Cassels**, **Danny Gilmore** and **William F. Sunderland**.

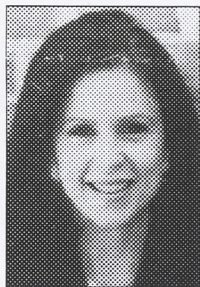
• OPC member **Elias P. Demetropoulos** pops up in Chapter 16 of "The Hunting of the President: The Ten-Year Campaign to Destroy Bill and Hillary Clinton" [New York: St. Martin's]. The book was written by **Joe Conason**, now a political columnist for *The New York Observer* who covered the 1986 end of the Ferdinand Marcos regime in the Philippines and the 1989 Tiananmen Square trouble in Beijing for *The Village Voice*; and **Gene Lyons**, a columnist for *The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* in Little Rock. The authors write that **Lucianne Goldberg**, the literary agent linked to the Monica Lewinsky affair, was involved in "dissemination of a letter smearing a distinguished Greek journalist as a Communist agent [during the 1972 Nixon-McGovern U.S. presidential campaign]." The book continues: "Elias P. Demetropoulos had fled the Greek military coup in 1967 and devoted his considerable skills to the restoration of democracy in his country." Written by John P. Rousakis, mayor of Savannah, Georgia, the open letter described the OPC member as "an obscure Greek communist journalist." The book goes on: "Demetropoulos, whose anti-Communist credentials could hardly have been better... demanded and belatedly got a retraction and apology. Later still, investigators for the Senate Watergate committee determined that the letter had in fact been written as part of a dirty tricks operations by Lucianne Goldberg."



# New Books

• OPC member **Donald Kirk**, a long-time reporter in Asia, examines South Korea's economic crisis and Seoul's attempts to come to terms with North Korea in "Korean Crisis: Unraveling of the Miracle in the IMF Era" [New York: St. Martin's Press]. Now Seoul correspondent for the *International Herald Tribune*, Kirk traces events that caused the crisis including a series of scandals disclosed at the peak of Korea's economic miracle, President Kim Dae Jung's efforts to curb the power of the *chaebol* (business conglomerates), intervention of the IMF and South Korea's attempts to obtain foreign investment. Based almost exclusively on Kirk's reporting, "the book explores another overwhelming problem, that of coming to terms with North Korea, which is suffering from famine but still a threat," the publisher said.

• **Robin Wright** has reported from Iran for *The Los Angeles Times* and *The New Yorker* and now has written her third book on that country: "The Last Great Revolution: Turmoil and Transformations in Iran" [New York: Knopf]. After first visiting Iran as a young reporter in 1973, she became fascinated by the 1979 revolution. For the past 20 years, she has written about, studied and explored Iran, and spoken to many of its notables, including Supreme



Robin Wright

CHARLES KNOCKEL

Leader Ali Khamenei when he was president of the new Islamic Republic of Iran. She calls the 1979 uprising against the Shah the "last great revolution" because a 2,500-year tradition of autocracy was abolished and replaced by a new model of Islamic government, one that aspired to fuse a theocratic state with Western democratic forms. Reviewing the book in *The New York Times*, **Max Rodenbeck**, a correspondent for *The Economist* in the Middle East, wrote: "Blending interviews, acute observation and informed analysis, Wright explores the changes wrought by two decades of revolutionary turmoil, ranging from abrupt about-faces in foreign policy to subtle evolutions in attitudes toward love, sex and marriage. The mosaic that emerges is convincing, both as an intimate portrait of Iranian society and an interpretation of Iran's experiment with Islamic governance." **Gelareh Asayesh**, a journalist and author who grew up in Iran, wrote in *The Washington Post*: "Wright's reporting is comprehensive and meticulous. She managed to include the student unrests of last summer in the book and, with pivotal Iranian elections held on February 18th, her analysis offers an invaluable context for understanding the changes that seem imminent in Iran."

• **Pico Iyer**, a *Time* magazine contributing writer, was born in Britain to Indian parents, named for a 15th Century Italian, educated at Oxford, and now lives variously in Los Angeles, rural Japan and other places around the world. He deals with mixed cultures in "The Global Soul: Jet Lag, Shopping Malls, and the Search for Home" [New York: Knopf]. In Hong Kong, the author finds a clothing store named "People's Republic of Chic." In

Los Angeles airport, he spots a Southeast Asian wearing a shirt emblazoned with the words "The Very Last Viking." In Toronto, he finds a restaurant that serves "Indian Pakistani-style Chinese food." The gift shop in John Keats' house in England sells teddy bears wearing sashes that read "I Am a Romantic." A *New York Times* review said Iyer "relishes multinationality pileups," quoting the author: "I'm sitting in a Parisian cafe just outside Chinatown (in San Francisco) talking to a Mexican-American friend about biculturalism while a Haitian woman stops off to congratulate him on a piece he's just delivered on TV on St. Patrick's Day." And: "The Iranian addressed her in fluent Danish, corrected her Californian inflections, and then, in her mother's tongue, said sadly, 'Good-bye, Danish girl.' As soon as she walked away, he turned to me. 'Excuse me. ¿Habla español?'"



Janet Flanner (left) and Natalia Murray

• From 1925-1975, **Janet Flanner** wrote about France for *The New Yorker* in pieces titled "Letter From Paris." A collection of her articles won a 1966 National Book Award. She lived in Paris for many years except from 1939, a month after World War II started, until 1944, when she returned wearing a war  
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## OPC ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Thursday, April 27, 2000  
Reception: 6:00pm  
Dinner: 7:00pm  
Grand Hyatt Hotel

Lou Boccardi,  
Helen Thomas, Mike Wallace  
and 19 Awards

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